

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 220508

E.O. 11652:ADS-DECLASSIFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: MARR, TPHY, BR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION/REVISION OF PROJECT 4600

REFS: A. SECSTATE 035416 (DTG 162113Z FEB 77)
B. BRASILIA 4049 (DTG 192030 MAY 77)

1. REFTELS PROVIDE REQUEST AND GOB APPROVAL FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE AIR FORCE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY (AFGL) PARTICIPATION IN THE JOINT BRAZILIAN/US VERY LOW FREQUENCY (VLF)/LOW FREQUENCY (LF) IONOSOUNDING EXPERIMENT THROUGH 30 SEPTEMBER 1978.

2. IF AMBASSADOR CONCURS, REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK EXTENSION OF THE PROJECT THROUGH 30 SEPTEMBER 1980, AND HOST GOVERN-
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MENT APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AS DESCRIBED BELOW.

3. AFGL IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING A PROGRAM TO MEASURE THE PROPAGATION PARAMETERS OF THE LOWER IONOSPHERE'S C-LAYER AND ITS EFFECT ON LOW FREQUENCY COMMUNICATION AND NAVIGATION. MEASUREMENTS WOULD BE CONDUCTED AT MID AND HIGH LATITUDES DURING 1978 AND 1979 AND WOULD BE EXTENDED TO SEE IF THE

C-LAYER, WHICH IS BELIEVED TO BE FUNCTION OF MAGNETIC LATITUDE, EXISTS AT THE LOW LATITUDES OF BRAZIL. UNDER THE

PRESENT COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT, AFGL HAS ASSISTED THE BRAZILIAN AIR FORCE IN BUILDING A SOMEWHAT SIMPLIFIED VERSION OF THE HIGH RESOLUTION VLF/LF PULSE IONOSOUNDER. THE BRAZILIAN SYSTEM TRANSMITS FROM A 130 METER ANTENNA TOWER NEAR PORTO UNIAO, SANTA CATARINA, AND HAS A SIMPLE RECEIVING SITE NEAR BLUMENAU, WITH A RANGE OF ABOUT 200 KM. THIS RANGE IS SOMEWHAT SHORT FOR C-LAYER STUDIES. WE WOULD PROPOSE TO PROVIDE TWO ADDITIONAL DIGITAL RECEIVING SYSTEMS TO GIVE COVERAGE OUT TO 400 KM AT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SITES. THIS EQUIPMENT WOULD BE RETURNED TO THE US UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM.

4. AFGL PROPOSES TO SEND A TWO MAN TEAM TO BRAZIL DURING THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 1978 - JANUARY 1979 TO CONDUCT A ONE MONTH TEST PROGRAM. ALL WOULD BE US CITIZENS AND WOULD POSSESS ALL REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS. FINAL TEAM COMPOSITION WOULD BE PROVIDED IN A TRAVEL CLEARANCE REQUEST SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE. CHRISTOPHER

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